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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States Patent Application of:) Docket No.:	4197-116
Applicant:	Frank-Gunter Niemz, et al.	Examiner:	Mark A. Osel
Application No.:	10/089,143) Art Unit:	1734
Date Filed:	March 26, 2002) Confirmation) No.:	9811
Title:	METHOD AND DEVICE FOR REGULATING THE COMPOSITION OF SOLUTION(S)	Customer No.:	23448

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE ATTN: Examiner Mark A. Osele Fax No. (703) 872-9306

I hereby certify that this document is being filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, via facsimile transmission to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 23, 2004, to United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile transmission number (703) 872-9306.

Number of Pages (including coyer) / Marianne Fuierer September 23, 2004 Date

RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 13, 2004 OFFICE COMMUNICATION IN U.S. PATENT **APPLICATION NO. 10/089,143**

Commission for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated September 13, 2004, Examiner Osele imposed a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 against claims 1-16 and required that an election be made between one of the following groups:

Claims 1-5, 8-10 and 15-16, drawn to a method of making mouldings from Group I cellulose pulp; and

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Group II Claims 6-7 and 11-14, drawn to a mixing and extruding apparatus.

Applicants believe there would be a great economy of cost and effort on the part of the Office, and certainly to the applicants, if the closely related subject matter of Groups I - II claims were examined together in this one application. Applicants maintain the subject matter of Groups I - II define, but one invention, and do not possess sufficient differences to warrant issuance of separate patents.

In the event the requirement is adhered to, applicants provisionally elect with traverse, the invention of Group II, for further examination on the merits.

In accordance with Office guidelines recited in MPEP Section 821.04, elected apparatus claims found to recite patentable subject matter may be rejoined with the provisionally withdrawn method of use claims and examined in this one application provided the method of use recite limitations corresponding to those found to be patentable during examination of the elected invention. As such, when the product claims 6-7 and 11-14, drawn to a mixing and extruding apparatus are found to recite patentable subject matter, non-elected claims 1-5, 8-10 and 15-16 should be taken up for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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